



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

day, I shall not, except at your special request, continue to communicate with you separately on the subject.

Respectfully,

R. J. WILKINSON,

For Acting Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements.

The Acting Consul-General for the United States of America, Singapore.

SINGAPORE, November 24, 1900.

SIR: With reference to the term "epidemic," used in the appended letter from the acting colonial secretary, I have to point out to you that the facts of the case do not justify the use of so strong an expression.

An outbreak of cholera occurred among a set of coolies employed at the island of Pulo Brani; they took flight, and dispersed, mostly going to some 3 or 4 localities in Singapore, and it is from these localities that all the cases have come, except a few from the lunatic asylum. As yet, the disease has not become epidemic in any sense.

Respectfully,

E. W. VON TUNZELMANN,

Medical Officer, United States Consulate-General.

Acting Consul-General for the United States of America.

TURKEY.

Plague in Smyrna and Constantinople.

[Report No. 258.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, January 10, 1901.

Second outbreak of plague in Smyrna.

SIR: While fighting here with a widespread epidemic of influenza, appalling news has reached us from Smyrna. Plague broke out again in this city. About December 15 last a man abandoned himself to drunkenness and fell intoxicated on the flagstones of the tavern. He slept there all night. In the morning he awoke with chills, high fever, and strong headache. He went to his room and laid up, but two days after, seeing that he had not improved, he went to his brother's house at Thomaso, a village near Cordelis, in the surroundings of Smyrna. It was in this house that he died six days after, after he had presented grave symptoms of pneumonia with bloody sputa. This illness lasted in all eight days. One day after this death the landlady fell ill with pneumonia and three days after she died also. Her sister fell ill, too, and another woman also, and several other persons, 13 in all, who presented nearly the same symptoms of pneumonia, and all of them, except one, had a fatal issue. No bacteriological examination was made, therefore said pneumonia cases have been considered as caused by influenza, but on the 2d instant a grocer, whose shop is in the same quarter where the first man who fell intoxicated and woke ill with pneumonia, fell ill in his house with characteristic bubo in the armpit, which in the microscopical examination has shown the plague bacilli. It can not be doubted that all these cases of pneumonia above-mentioned were due to plague. I forward a French copy of the dispatches sent from Smyrna on this question, as well as the decision of the sanitary board. The latter case, that of the grocer, has also proved fatal.

Bubonic plague in Constantinople.

Yesterday the superior sanitary council was convoked to an extraordinary meeting in order to receive a communication concerning a bubonic plague death which occurred last Monday, the 7th instant. I give the history of the case: About twelve days ago a boatman, who was in the service of the police and whose duty was to stay all day long in his boat around the ships in the harbor and survey and examine the

passengers going to and coming from said ships, went to Beicos, a village on the Bosphorus, on the Asiatic coast, where he fell ill. Not having a house, he laid up in a coffee shop in said village. He stayed there about eight days when his friends fetched him to Sentary, another village on the same side of the Bosphorus. There a physician, Ziabey, was asked to visit him, which he did and found the patient in a grave condition, presenting all the symptoms of an infectious disease. Among the symptoms he found a bubo in the left groin.

Dr. Ziabey notified the case to the sanitary authorities, but in the meanwhile the patient was carried to the hospital of the civilian medical school at Cadirga. Last Monday the man died in said hospital. I must not omit to state that the man, as soon as carried there, was placed apart [isolated]. At the post-mortem examination it was found that he had a large growth as well as an urethritis, from which pus issued. At the microscopical examination of the contents of the growth many, or rather, as Dr. Nicolle, the director of the bacteriological hospital said, enormous quantity of plague bacilli were found.

Directly the authorities have taken the most stringent steps in order to prevent the spread of the evil. The wearing apparel of the man was buried and all the effects. Wearing apparel of all the friends or other acquaintances, who had contact with him, thoroughly disinfected, as well as the men themselves just under observation. At the same time the government wanted to know what steps would the international sanitary board take. Therefore, an extraordinary meeting was convoked yesterday. The first proposal is, that the physicians whose charge is to survey the dead bodies must perform their duty with all the stringency required by the situation, the cleansing of the city, the installation of special hospitals for plague patients, and survey the places where people are thronged. The United States sanitary commissioner said that the cleansing of the city is not enough, as it has been ascertained in other cities where plague broke out. I cited the case of Bombay, which was cleansed, and the places where plague was observed thoroughly disinfected, but plague continues to make its victims. I said that besides the cleansing of the city we ought to ask from the Government to have by-laws by which the sun and air would be allowed to enter everywhere in the houses, to dry all the streets and lanes and prevent the building of back-to-back houses, as well as high buildings in which the inhabitants have no air, no sun, nor light whatever. I forward a French copy of the steps to be taken in order to prevent the spread of the evil, in which it seems that my proposal has not been included.

Influenza in Constantinople.

As above stated, a very wide spread of influenza exists at present in Constantinople. It is of rather mild character, and I may say that very few cases prove fatal. There are always some cases of scarlet fever.

Respectfully,

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO,
United States Sanitary Commissioner.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.